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(54) Title: COMPUTER KEYBOARD WITH DIFFERENT LETTER LAYOUT

(57) Abstract

The invention groups the letters of a particular alphabet in a specific way on at least three rows of keys of a computer keyboard. The vowels (A, E, I, O, U) of a language are placed in alphabetic order on a middle row of keys proceeding from the left hand-side. The remaining letters of that particular alphabet are placed on the keys in alphabetic/quantity/amount, order of use; which are progressing from left to right starting after the vowel letter on the middle row (D, H, N, R, S, T) and then to a bottom row of keys (B, C, F, G, J, L, M, P, V, W) and finally to a top row of keys (K, Q, X, Y, Z, ?, <, >, /, ., {, }).

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COMPUTER KEYBOARD WITH DIFFERENT LETTER LAYOUT

Object is to improve locating on a keyboard the letters of the alphabet.

The layout allots alphabetic keys into methodical groups; allowing for logical location

This description refers to the rows of keys as MIDDLE, for the row of keys currently commencing with the letter "A".

5 LOWER, for the row of keys currently commencing with the letter "Z".

TOP, for the row of keys currently commencing with the letter "Q".

MIDDLE ROW - VOWELS of a language are placed in alphabetic order from left to right across the keyboard. Following them, progressing to the right, in their alphabetic order, the next most used letters of that particular language/alphabet. This continues for 10 the current 'alpha' keys until all are allotted.

LOWER ROW - This row has the following most used letters of the same language allotted. This continues for the current 'alphabetic' keys until all are allotted.

TOP ROW - This row has the remaining letters of that language, in alphabetic order, allotted to them. Again the pattern is followed of proceeding in alphabetic order 15 across the keyboard, from left to right.

'Displaced' characters, punctuation, are placed on the keys of this row to the right.

Referring to the English language, the ten characters are arranged in a methodical sequence.

The attached diagram gives a better understanding, than an explanation in text.

20 NOTE:

"NEW" Uppercase letters indicate shifted (upper case) characters.

"NEW" Lowercase letters indicate non-shifted (lower case) characters.

KEYBOARD DIAGRAM FOR THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

NOW Q W E R T Y U I O P { }

25 NEW K Q X Y Z ? < > / ' { }

NEW k q x y z " ; : , . []

NOW A S D F G H J K L : "

NEW A E I O U D H N R S T

NEW a e i o u d h n r s t

30 NOW Z X C V B N M < > ?

NEW B C F G J L M P V W

NEW b c f g j l m p v w

CLAIMS

Claim 1 The vowels of a language are grouped and placed in their alphabetical order on the keyboard; on the middle row of keys of the keyboard; beginning at the left hand side.

Claim 2 The next most used letters of that language follow in alphabetic order, /and their 'quantity' of use; along that row of keys, proceeding to the right hand of the vowels.

5 Claim 3 The following most used letters of a particular language are placed on another row of keys; the lower, in the case of the English language; proceeding to the right; in alphabetic order.

Claim 4 The balance of the alphabet not allotted are placed on the top row of keys; commencing at the left; in their alphabetic order

Claim 5 Punctuation and the characters displaced are grouped on the top row; to the right of the alphabet keys.

Claim 6 These are set in a particular order.

a) In lower case setting: ["] [;] [:] [,] [.]

b) These characters 'progress' from a "high/size"; {"}

15 c) order to the full stop/dot [.]; on the line.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.
PCT/AU 98/00399

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int Cl⁶: B41J 5/10, 5/08; G06F 3/02, 3/023; H01H 13/70

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC : B41J 5/08, 5/10, G06F 3/02, 3/023

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

AU: IPC as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WPAT:

JAPIO:

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2040248 A (AUGUST DVORAK AND WILLIAM L. DEALEY) 12 May 1936 Whole document.	1-6
Y	" "	1
X	US 3698532 A (DODDS) 17 October 1972 Whole document.	1-6
Y	" "	1
X	US 3847263 A (X) 12 November 1974 Whole document.	1-6
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C

See patent family annex

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Date of the actual completion of the international search 03 August 1998	Date of mailing of the international search report 14 AUG 1998
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200 WODEN ACT 2606 AUSTRALIA Facsimile No.: (02) 6285 3929	Authorized officer <i>Adriano Giacobetti</i> ADRIANO GIACOBETTI Telephone No.: (02) 6283 2579

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C (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	GB 2041295 A (CLAUDE MARSAN) 10 September 1980 Whole document.	1-6
Y	" "	1
Y	US 4927279 A (MORGAN) 22 May 1990 Figure 3; (Vowels grouped in alphabetical order on a middle row of keys of a keyboard)	1
Y	US 1512001 A (JAN CERNY) 14 October 1924 Figure 1; (Vowels grouped in alphabetical order on a middle row of keys of a keyboard)	1
A	US 1506426 A (ROY E. HOKE) 26 August 1924 Document provides an indication on the frequency of use of letters and punctuation marks.	
A	US 3945482 A (EINBINDER) 23 March 1976 Document discloses different key arrangements on keyboards to reflect high frequency use (most used) letter by various languages.	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International Application No.
PCT/AU 98/00399

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report			Patent Family Member		
US	3847263	CA	975317	GB	1424306
GB	2041295	FR	2446723		
END OF ANNEX					